

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT:CYPRUS SITUATION - NOON PRESS BRIEFING

FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT Q'S AND A'S ON CYPRUS SITUATION,
NOON PRESS BRIEFING JANUARY 30:

QUOTE: Q: IS THERE ANY TIME SET YET FOR THE SECRETARY'S
MEETING WITH THE CONGRESSMEN ON CYPRUS?

A: NO TIME IS SET YET. I WILL CHECK THIS AND GIVE YOU
WHATEVER IS SET.

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Q: IN THAT CONNECTION, IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE SECRETARY WILL ALSO VISIT CYPRUS, GREECE, TURKEY, ON HIS UPCOMING SWING IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

A: THIS HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH ME IN ANY OF MY CONVERSATIONS, BUT LET ME LOOK INTO THAT AND SEE WHAT I CAN HAVE FOR YOU. I JUST DON'T HAVE ANYTHING.

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY IDEA OF WHAT WOULD CONSTITUTE PROGRESS TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT, OR ACCEPTABLE PROGRESS? IS THERE ANY CRITERIA THAT YOU ARE USING?

A: I THINK, OBVIOUSLY, THAT PROGRESS TOWARDS ARRIVING AT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT -- AS I HAVE SAID MANY TIMES

BEFORE -- FIRST OF ALL, ANY PROGRESS THAT IS GOING TO BE MADE, ISN'T GOING TO BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF WHAT WE TELL THE PARTIES. THE PARTIES HAVE GOT TO BE THE ONES THAT HAVE TO AGREE ON IT.

YOU HAVE THE HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS, WHICH ARE BEING DEALT WITH NOW THROUGH THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS. NOW THERE ARE POLITICAL SUBJECTS THAT ARE UNDER DISCUSSION IN THESE TWICE WEEKLY MEETINGS. AND IN THESE DISCUSSIONS, THERE IS THE QUESTION OF THE OPENING OF THE AIRPORT, INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, IN NICOSIA. THAT HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE THE FIGHTING LAST SUMMER. THERE IS THE QUESTION OF THE OPENING OF FAMAGUSTA PORT. THEN THEY ARE DISCUSSING THE QUESTION OF THE CENTRAL POWERS OF A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, WHICH WE KNOW ABOUT. THEY HAVE ANNOUNCED THIS. THEN THERE IS THE QUESTION OF THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF BOTH COMMUNITIES -- THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS.

I THINK THAT WHEN YOU TRY AND PUT ALL OF THESE TOGETHER, DEPENDING ON HOW THE DISCUSSIONS COME OUT, ALL OF THESE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A LESSENING OF TENSION ON THE ISLAND, AND HOPEFULLY THIS WOULD REPRESENT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS TOWARDS ARRIVING AT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. BUT IT IS A DIFFICULT ROAD FOR EVERYONE.

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Q: YESTERDAY YOU SAID, IN REPLY TO ONE OF MY QUESTIONS, I THINK, THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN INFORMED OF CERTAIN MOVES THAT WILL BE TAKEN. ARE ANY OF THESE MOVES AMONG THOSE THAT THE U.S. HAS BEEN INFORMED WILL BE TAKEN?

A: WELL ON THIS, THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS, ARE GOING TO

BE HELD TOMORROW, AND, AS I DID SAY YESTERDAY, IT IS A
DELICATE SITUATION, AND I DON'T WANT TO, FROM HERE, TRY
AND PREDICT THE OUTCOME OF THIS NEXT ROUND OF TALKS
BETWEEN THE TWO INTER-COMMUNAL LEADERS.

WE OBVIOUSLY ARE HOPEFUL THAT THIS MEETING, AND
FUTURE MEETINGS, THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE. THIS WILL
BE IN THE INTERESTS OF PEACE ON THE ISLAND. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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